[श्री सोहन लाल धसिंग]

ए०सी० में जगह नहीं मिलती है। जयंती-जनता में स्लीपर में 25 आदमी वहां से जाते हैं 40 बम्बई बी०टी० के स्लीपर में जाते हैं। वहां के 14 एम०एल०ए० है, दो एम०एल० सी० है, चार एम० पी० हैं लेकिन वेटिंग रूम बहुत छोटा है। वहां पर बड़ा वेटिंग रूम बनाया जाना चाहिये या इसी को बड़ा किया जाना चाहिये। पांडे बाजार से जहां से रेल गुजरती है गेट पर ओवरब्रिज बनाना चाहिये। वहां पर बहुत देर तक फाटक बन्द रहने से यातायात ठप्प हो जाता है। डी० हरीराम जो वहां पर जी० एम० थे। उन्होंने जयंती जनता, साबरमती बम्बई, बी०टी०, कोचीन एक्सप्रैस दी।

[श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए।]

अब नये जी० एम० मिस्टर माथुर आए हैं। हम यह देखते हैं कि वहां 20डाउन जो कलकत्ता से गोरखपुर तक आती है उसको लखनऊ तक दे पाते हैं या नहीं दे पाते हैं। हम को यह देखना है कि जो गाडियां हैं उनके विषय में वे कुछ इनिशियेटिव लेते हैं या नहीं लेते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now there is a short duration discussion. If the hon. Member is going to conclude within one or two minutes it is all right. Otherwise you can continue your speech tomorrow.

पूर्वी जिलों में बिजली अक्सर फेल हो जाती है। बिजली फेल होने की वजह से वहां पर स्टेशन के मुसाफिरों को बहुत तकलीफ हो जाती है इसलिए वहां पर जनरेटर होना चाहिए। बगैर जनरेटर के वहा के लोग सुरक्षित नहीं रहेंगे।

रेलवे कंपाउन्ड में जितनी जमीनें खाली हों उनको लैंडलेस को दे देना चाहिए इससे प्रोडक्शन बढ़ेगा और गरीब आदमियों को रोजी रोटी मिलेगी। इन्ही शब्दों के साथ हम यह कहेंगे कि जो सुझाव हमने दिये है खास करके बस्ती के लिए - उन पर सरकार गौर करे। धन्यवाद।

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## RE. REPORTED HIGH COURT DECISION AGAINST MAHARASHTRA CHIEF MINISTER

**श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी** (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, आगे की कार्यवाही आप शुरु करें उससे पहले मैं सदन का और सरकार का भी ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा कि बम्बई उच्च न्यायालय ने महाराष्ट्र के मुख्यमंत्री के खिलाफ फैसला दिया है। उनको इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए और केन्द्रीय सरकार के गवर्नर के रोल के बारे में भी अगर उन्होंने कुछ कहा है तो उसके बारे में विचार करना चाहिए यह केन्द्रीय सरकार को करना चाहिए।

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## SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

### Serious Threat posed to Freedom and Sovereignty of Nicaragua by certain Hostile Powers

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the outset and before I raise a discussion on the serious threat posed to the freedom and sovereignty of Nicaragua by the US imperialists, I must congratulate through you, the Chairman and also the leader of the ruling party for having agreed to allow me to raise this discussion in this august body because, Sir, when we are in session, when the Indian Parliament is in session, from yesterday the US Congress has started its session and there is a motion before the US congress brought by the Reagan administration, seeking sanction of 100 million dollars for aiding the counter-revolutionary forces under the name "Contras" based in Honduras and Costa Rica to destabilise the entire political situation, the economic situation, of Nicaragua and also to threaten the sovereignty and freedom of the Nicaraguan people.

[Shri Dipen Ghosh]

Sir, you are aware that between 1979 and 1984, the US administration headed by Reagan provided 70 million dollars to aid the mercenary gangs named "Contras" based in Honduras and Costa Rica in their aim to throttle the independence and freedom of the Nicaraguan people. In 1985, the Reagan administration go the US Congress to sanction 27 million dollars as "humanitarian" aid to these gangs, and they gave the cover of that word "humanitarian" under which they wanted to prop up these counter-revolutionary forces. In 1985 these mercenaries made 108 attacks on the civilian people of Nicaragua. These gangs in a recent incident ambushed a civilian truck and killed five civilians, including a Swiss national and injured three young children. Sir, in fact, the U.S. Administration has declared a war political war, economic war, military war, against Nicaragua. What is their crime? The crime is that in 1979 the Nicaraguan people had overthrown the dictator, Samoza, hitherto propped up by the U.S. Administration. Sir, you know these U.S. imperialists had been trying to destabilise our country also. These U.S. impetrialisls have been helping some of our hostile neighbours to destabilise the internal political situation of our country. You know these U.S. imperialists had even been giving all types of infra-structural facilities for training the so-called terrorists or extremists who are now operating in various parts of our country to destabilise the internal situation in our country. Sir, you know these U.S. imperialists had made, in 1962, an abortive effort to throttle democracy, independence and freedom of Cuba which is known as the Bay of Pigs incident. You know how the elected Chilean government was overthrown through these counter-revolutionary activities engineered by the U.S. imperialists. You know how the U.S. imperialists are intervening in EL Salvador and certain other countries in Latin America.

Sir, now, this Reagan Administration has come out with a motion in the U.S. Congress which has been meeting since yesterday, to grant 100 million dollars aid to these Contras to operate the counter-revolutionary activities and to jeopardise the interests of the Nicaraguan freedom and independence. What is heartening is that the Latin American nations and their governments have expressed their serious concern against the growing U.S. intervention in Nicaragua. In fact, the Foreign Ministens of the Contadora and Support Group countries met in Caraballeda on 11th and 12th January, 1986. Sir, you know that this Group consists of some of the countries in Central America and the countries are Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama. Since 1983, they have been trying to mediate and arrive at a peaceful settlement of the outstanding problems of that area. They had made certain constructive suggestions to bring about peace in that area. The Nicaraguan Government had supported the peace move made by these Latin American countries called as Contadora Group. But the worst is that that suggestion and that move has been turned down by the U.S. Administration. And when these countries are trying, when they have made certain specific proposals to process negotiations for bringing about peace for creating a situation there so that Nicaragua can get a free hand in developing their own country this Administration has brought this Motion seeking grant of the US Congress amounting to 100 million dollars to destabilise Nacarague.

Sir, the Indian Government has a role to play because this is the last year of its Chairpersonship of the Non-aligned Movement. And in the past our country has along tradition to fight against the imperialists.

We have the tradition of siding with the people of any other country fighting against the imperialists. So, our Government has a role to play at this juncture. And I hope, the Minister of External Affairs, Mr. B.R. Bhagat, who is present, will surely come out with an express support to the Government of Nicaragua against this US imperialist move to rottle the democracy and the independence of Nicaragua. Sir, I would expect that the leaders of other Parties, including the thriling Party, will be taking part in this discussion and support my move. And, therefore, I do not want to take much of the time. I would only like to draw your kind attention and through you, Sir, the kind attention of the other Members to the demands o rrather to the poins which those Central American countries, the Latin American countries which I named have made. The foreign Ministers of thes countries met on the 11th and 12th January, 1986, and adopted a Resolution. I have a copy of that Resolution, in which they have said, and I quote:

> To achieve the effective fulfilment of permanent basis for peace it becomes necessary to generate a climate of mutual confidence that would restore the spirit of negotiations and translates the will to achieve the final objective of signing and implementing the Contadora Act for peace and co-operation in Central America.
>
> 1. To reinitiate and finalise the negotiations leading to the signing of Contadora Act for peace and co-operation in Central Americal.
>
> 2. Cessation of all external help to the irregular forces operating in the region.
>
> 3. Cessation of help to the insurrectionary movements in all the countries of the region.
>
> 4. Freezing of equisition of arms and a programme reduction.
>
> 5. Suspension of international military manoeures.
>
> 6. Progressive reduction leading finally to the no-presence of foreign military advisers and foreign military installations.
>
> 7. Agreement on no-agression between the five countries through unilateral declarations.
>
> 8. Effective steps leading to national reconciliation and complete exercise of human rights and individual liberities. And
>
> 9. Promotion of regional and infernational co-operation to solve the urgent economic and social problems that are affecting the region."

And I think that there is none here who will not stand by it. Sir, I hope that all will come forward to support it.

Sir, in the end, I would like to conclude by saying that in order to counter the revolutionary activities of the Nicaraguan people, in order to throttle the democrary and independence of Nicaragua the U.S. imperialists have declared an economic blockade against Nicaragua. Now, they are trying to commit military agression and by economic blockage they want to kill the people, half-starved, under-starved and starved.

[Shri Dipen Ghosh]

Sir, against this we must unite and raised our voice. Not only should we raise our voice from the Parliament of India but we should also organise assistance to and cooperation, solidarity actions, active with the Nicaraguan people. I hope all other leaders of all the parties will come forward to organise such active support and assistance to the Nicaraguan people fighting against the U.S. imperialists. Thank you.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy chairman, Sir, this august House is discussing the problems of Nicaragua at a point of time when the threat of war is looming large on the Horizon and we do not know whether there would be any war tomorrow but if any third World War breaks out we do not know whether we will remain alive to tell the history or history will remain alive to tell about us, history and ourselves, the mankind, will perish together and nothing will be left behind. The story of Nicaragua is a saga of sacrifice, fortitude and determination to preserve the democracy and sovereignty of a tiny nation whose population is only three million. It has started fighting against imperialist forces ever since it has attained independence under the leadership of Mr. Sandinista, the national liberation front leader in 1979. Ever since it has attained independence, the forces of imperialism have been helping the contra-rebels to destabilise the democracy, to create problems for Nicaragua and to ensure that the independent Government is sabotaged and destroyed. Who are the contras? Who are the contra-rebels? The contrarebels are those mercenaries who were recruited by the Samoa's dictatorial regime had been thrown out of power the contra-rebels are being groomed up, supported and patronised by forces of imperialism to stage revolt inside the State of Nicaragua. The American imperialism has been helping them. Between 1982 and 1984, a sum of U.S. 73 million dollar had been spent to provide support to the contra-rebels. And we are concerned to see that there has another move initiated by the President of the the United States, Mr. Reagan, to seek the sanction of the Senate to get another dollar 100 million to provide military aid to contra-rebels. It is also encouraging to see that the Senate is yet to give any support or ratification to the proposal initiated by President Reagan, the President of the U.S. administration and in view of the fact that the peace movement is gaining grounds inside the United States, we hope that the Senate would not render approval to this proposal and we would be able to find a political solution to the problem that is being encountered by Nicaragua, a small Latin American country. Eversince it attained independence effort has been made to find a political solution to the problem. As the previous speaker Dipen Babu has said, on 9th March 1983, Columbia, Panama, Venezuela and Mexico joined together in Contradora and tried to find a solution—which is known as Contradora Group—and this group has been trying to find a political solution to the problem. In 1984, the International Court of Justice gave verdict against the military and para-military activities of United States against the Government of Nicaragua. In January 1986, the Declaration of Carabaleda took place where these countries from Central America joined together to find out a solution to the problem of Nicaragua. Effort is going on but time has come

[Shri Deba Prasad Ray]

for us to mobilise world opinion to ensure that the problem finds a political solution and the saga of persecution and colonialism is ultimately ended and we are able to provide support to this poor and small Latin American country. The peace movement has gained a lot of ground. Peace movement is going on and this problem is being discussed today in our Parliament. We know the United Nations has declared this year as the international year of peace. In this international year of peace, the movement is being intensified to ensure peace in the global arena, in the international arena.

As we all agree, peace can be preserved only when there is total disarmament. Peace can be preserved only when there is total freeze of nuclear arms race and there is total disarmament. It is a sad situation to take note of that in 1986 alone, a sum of Rs. 970 billion dollars is going to be spent for military purposes, whereas ten per cent of this amount, if spent for development, could eliminate poverty from the dictionary of human history and poverty could be eliminated from the global arena permanently. But this situation has cropped up. Peace movement has to be intensified but the concept of peace has also to be interlinked with the concept of development. As long as poverty, hunger and unemployment continue to persist in the developing countries, peace in the real sense of the term, cannot be established in the international arena. Similarly, the concept of peace is inter-linked with the concept of freedom. As long as a single country is left without freedom, as long as a single country is left under the clutches of imperialism, it would not be possible to claim that peace has been preserved in the global arena. That is why we are here to take a stand to express solidarity with Nicaragua which has been fighting against the forces of imperialism, which has been trying to ensure, its sovereignty is not destroyed, that its democratic structure is not destroyed and that the duly elected government which has come into power in 1934 is not destabilised because of the pressure of the US administration. We have to take a stand on this issue. I have the proud privilege to say that India, being a non-aligned country, has always acted in a positive manner on every major political issue in the global arena. When there was Korean War in 1950, India took the positive stand. When there was the Suez Canal dispute in 1956, India took a positive stand in solving the problem. When there was the question of giving recognition to Madam Bin's Government of Kampuchea, India took a positive stand. When there was the question of giving recognition to SWAPO, India acted in a positive manner. When there was the question of giving recognition to PLO, India acted in a positive manner. When there was the question of giving recognition to African National Congress, India acted in a positive manner. And see the price India is paying for the stand that it has taken in expressing its solidarity with the liberation struggle. India has paid the highest price. India has paid the highest price; not only the subcontinent is being destablised, not only a death triangle has been laid around India by putting up army bases in Peshawar, by establishing bases in Chittagong, by establishing bases in Trincomalee. The leader of the nation, the spirit of the nation, the saviour of mankind was assassinated. It would be a mistake to draw the inference that she was the victim of two mad Sikhs. She was the victim of the same forces which could ensure the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman. She was the victim of the

[Shri Deba Prasad Ray]

same forces which could ensure the assassination of Bhutto in Pakistan, and the removal of Shrimati Bandaranaike from the Government of Sri Lanka. But the difference lies in the fact that with the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman, the voice of democracy was silenced in Bangladesh, with the assassination of Bhutto, the prospect of democracy has been buried in the land of Pakistan. With the removal of Bandaranaike from the Government of Sri Lanka, the Constitution has been abridged in the land of Sri Lanka. But after Shrimati Indira Gandhi was assassinated, the journey of this country, the journey towards socialism, the journey against imperialism, has been further accentuated by our leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi because when Mrs. Gandhi was killed, the spirit of India was not killed. Indira is the spirit of India. This spirit of India will continue to guide the nation, to guide the destiny of this country. I would like to say, the stand which our Prime Minister has taken pertaining to apartheid in the recently-held Commonwealth Summit, the stand which our Prime Minister has taken pertaining to the Star Wars programme when he visited the U.S.A., the stand which our Prime Minister has taken pertaining to the signing of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, has heightened the stature and prestige of this country, has heightened the stature and prestige of India and has given further strength to this country to lead the non-aligned movement. Today, India is capable enough. India is powerful enough, India is mighty enough to stand by this poor Latin American country which is fighting against the imperialist forces.

I would appeal to our Government through the External Affairs Minister to ensure that India takes initiative in persuading the United States to come to a peaceful solution, to enter into a peace treaty with the Nicaraguan Government, so that persecution ends, so that the contra rebels who are basically mercenaries are not given further patronage to destabilise this small country. I would also appeal to the Government of India through the External Affairs Minister that India should stand by Nicaragua in the matter of providing economic aid to this poor country whose peace has been destroyed, whose hospitals have been destroyed, where many people die for want of medical facilities, whose population, 50 per cent of the population, is in the range of 15 years of age. This country should be given new life and our Government should stand by this country by extending economic aid to this country. I would also appeal to the Government that they should send a peace mission to Nicaragua to find out what is happening there, how the people have been surviving, how they have been putting up resistance to the contra rebels who are on the attack on the peaceful people of Nicaragua. With all confidence, I would like to say, however powerful the imperialist forces may be, however strong they may be, whatever may be the success and magnitude of their attack, which the U.S. is mobilising against Nicaragua today the fact remains Nicaragua is the land of volcanoes. There are five volcanoes in Nicaragua. The people's volcano would erupt and the forces of imperialism would ultimately be buried beneath the earth. With these words I conclude.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, after this impassioned and eloquent advocacy, I find myself somewhat consrained for the task which you have kindly permitted me to perform by breaking the queue of speakers. While participating in this discussion

on Nicaragua, I am reminded of Grenada in 1983. When the U.S. marines landed there, ostensibly to protect their medical students, I expressed grave fears about the fate of American medical students in Punjab because Punjab, in 1983, was in turmoil. If the fate of medical students in the Caribbean could invite U.S.

5.00 P.M. marines then what was to prevent their sudden arrival or visition in our very own Punjab because after all, what is cause for goose could well be etc., etc.?

Sir, the other example that came to my mind is that of the winter of 1979 and it comes irrestibly to my mind because I was then travelling through my home district of Barmer and Jaiselmer with my schoolboy son and we happened to stop at a remote place not far from Indo-Pak border, called Miajilar. Miajilar is barely a collection of huts in the desert and all that we could hear was the sound of desert wind blowing over dunes. At that point my son who had a portable wireless set turned it on and we happened to learn of the coup in Afghanistan. At which point he took out a schoolboy foot ruler and measured the distance from Maijilar to Kabul and from Miajilar to Delhi on a map. He then made a very interesting observation which has constantly haunted me ever since then, that the distance from Miajilar to Kabul was almost the same as it was to Delhi and that is also an aspect of the Nicaraguan debate which comes to my mind as I participated in today's discussion.

It is not entirely out of context here to reflect on two other aspects One is the kiss of death of closeness to the United States of America and, of course, the two recent examples, the gross, mistakenly called Baby Doc Duvalier and the pitiful example of Marcos and, of course, the great example of Shahenshah, the Arya Meher, the Shah of Persia who thought Persia sitting on black gold, sitting on a balance of trade figures which could be the envy of any country, sitting on what Iran had stood for, he thought that he was the future, but the people of Iran thought differently as the people of Phillipines thought differently and the people of Haiti thought differently.

Therefore, I would like to caution the hon. Minister of External Affairs, when he returns from his visits to the United States and informs us that his policies, the Government of India's policies, his performance or the performance of the Prime Minister of India is meeting with the approval of the Secretary of State Schultz, then. I cannot help... (*Interruptions*) Yes, please correct me. Possibly it is mis-reported in the newspapers.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R BHAGAT): Expert in misquoting.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Please correct me because it will reassure me that the kiss of death of closeness to the United States of America is only a mirage.

**[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal)** in the Chair]

I think it is only appropriate if I mentioned here about the suffocating oblivion of the Bear Hug. Whereas I would like to caution you about the kiss of death of closeness to the United States of America, it is only appropriate that I talked about the suffocating oblivion that results from the Bear Hug. Therefore, I would like to conclude by just making three simple points. One is that we must reject this thesis of super power global interests I do not want to elaborate this thesis. It is a pernicious theory which suggests that super powers have global interests and we, who inhibit the rest of the planet, Earth do not even have regional or national

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

interests and it is super power interests alone which must predominate. I think that is at the crux, at the heart of the Nicaraguan debate. I put it across to the hon. External Affairs Minister that we must categorically reject, at every step, and in every forum any thesis which puts across the exclusivity of super power interest over all other interests of any nationality or nation. In the specific context of Nicaragua, I do support what the hon. Mover of the discussion has said. I think the most sensible, the most eminently right initiative that has been taken is the Contadora initiative which deserves all diplomatic support from the Government of India. I would therefore support the motion moved by my friend. Thank you.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I welcome this debate. We are aware what India stands for, India was a colonial country for a long time. India fought colonialism, waged a perpetual struggle against the biggest empire of those times—the British Empire—and we did ultimately succeed in getting our freedom. We were able at last to get back our own nation to ourselves. Therefore, Sir, we know the value of freedom, independence, we know the evil consequences of domination by a foreign power. Naturally, Sir, as a nation which has waged a difficult but successful struggle against imperialism in the past, we will feel concerned whenever any other country loses its sovereignty, independence or freedom. In this context, we should look at the Nicaraguan situation. It may be a far off country for us but it is also true that the world has become too small to overlook any development.

Sir, we were not thoughtless when we decided that we should remain a non-aligned power in the world. When we charted the path of non-alignment, we were conscious of the dangers, the obstacles, the challenges at that time. These problems are not over yet. We said that we will remain non-aligned because we do not want this world to be dominated by any power .The whole world belongs to all the States and to the people there. We believe in the real commonwealth of nations'. That is why we subscribe to the philosophy, the principle, the dogma—I say dogma advisedly—of non-alignment.

Nicaragua is a very small country in Central America. When Nicaragua was ruled by the Sandinista regime, the people there suffered in more than one way under the domination and misrule of that regime. The United States supported that regime, unfortunately. During those times, till 1979, Nicaragua was a client State of the United States but the regime became so oppressive that there was a mass revolt against that regime as a result of which a new regime was established and the old regime was overthrown. The dictator Anastasio Somoza was toppled. Since then trouble started for Nicaragua with the United States. The United States never reconciled itself to the change of Government in Nicaragua. ... (*Time-bell rings*) ... Sir, I will take a few minutes more and finish. The United States always, and even now is wedded to the old, out-of-date Monroe Doctrine. It thinks that the whole of American hemisphere including South America belongs to their sphere of influence. I think it is high time the United States should recast its policy.

Sir, because of lack of time I am skipping over many things. But I must point out that the United Nations had passed a resolution in 1970, a very important resolution. What does it state? It states:

> "No State or group of States has a right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever, in the internal or external affairs of any other State. Consequently,

armed intervention and all other forms of interference or attempted threats against the personality of the State or against its political, economic and cultural elements are in violation of international law."

It further states:—

"No State shall organize, assist, foment, finance, incite or tolerate subversive or armed activities directed towards the violent overthrow of the regime of another State or interfere in civil strife in another State."

The United States is a party to this resolution. In spite of this resolution the United States Government is acting in violation of this resolution. Therefore, Sir, I say that the United States should stop all assistance to the rebels in Nicaragua and it should accept—I repeat what my colleagues have said—the proposals of Contadora States to bring about a happy culmination of the developments in Nicaragua.

Lastly, Sir, I plead that the sovereignty and freedom of all States is important and whenever there is a threat or violation of the sovereignty or territorial integrity of the States, India should come to their rescue should plead for their cause and should stand by such states which are subjected to such violations by imperialist powers, whether it is an imperialist power of this side or that side. Sovereignty and integrity of any state are so important and sacred that they should be preserved.. India should always stand by such states which are subjected to such violations.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, if anyone asks me where on earth the Gate of Heaven is being stormed I shall unwaveringly say that it is in Central America on the soil of Nicaragua. Despite the economic blockade, total and complete, despite the blatant military intervention, despite millions of dollars being dumped for subversion, despite the endless supply of weapons to the merceneries, despite the massive military manoeuvre near Nicaragua, the Gate of Heaven is being stormed by the sons and daughters of the people of Nicaragua. The wave of liberation remains unabated. The bid to wipe out hunger and illiteracy in the shortest period of time is almost complete. The fabric of democracy is sought to be strengthened by holding elections even when the aggression is taking place on the soil of Nicaragua and the mandate and the massive turn-out only forms the popular base of the revolutionary government in Nicaragua. Nicaragua, being one of the smallest states in the world—may be it is smaller than many of our districts—symbolises the rarest category of human endeavour of defiance braving the mightiest military force of the world. If Nicaragua wins, liberation shall triumph. If Nicaragua wins, love for freedom shall win. If Nicaragua wins, humanity shall avenge its defeat in Chile. If Nicaragua wins, humanity shall avenge its defeat in Grenada. If Nicaragua wins, the American imperialism, the worst offender of decent human behaviour shall be defeated. If Nicaragua wins, the prospect of peace shall be brighter because the American imperialism constitutes the greatest threat to world peace.

Sir, if Nehru could lead the solidarity movement in support of the Spanish Republic in England, if the Indian National Congress could send a medical team to China, if Dr. Kotnis could die on the soil of China fighting along with the millions of the Chinese people against the Japanese aggression, why can the Government of India not respond more positively, decisively, favourably to the request of the Republic of Nicaragua for more material aid, for food and fertilizers, for paper and pen, for everything that is necessary

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

for them to exist and to fight against the imperialism?

Sir, the American policy is a policy of putting in peril everyone who is independent, everyone who is not a puppet in their hands. Therefore, in Salvador they are aiding the dictatorial regime. Therefore, in Haiti they have only lifted the young dictator and put in its place another repressive regime.

Sir, interference is the philosophy of the American imperialism. Who does not know that the American imperialism is conspiring against Indian Republic? Who does not know that the American imperialism is training and abetting the Sikh extremists? Who does not know that the American imperialism is encircling India. Who does not know that the American imperialism is alarming Pakistan just to hold out a threat against our nationally accepted policy of non-alignment and peace? Therefore, Sir, in order to defeat the global strategy of American imperialism we must take part in the international counter manoeuvre and the international counter-offensive to beat back the offensive of the American imperialism. While Mr. Reagan has been able to get through a greater sanction to put down the revolution in the young Republic of Nicaragua, America 65 Members of American Parliament have signed an appeal calling upon the American Government and people to put an end to the policy of intereference in the internal affairs of Nicaragua. When Mr. Reagan and his aide, Foreign Minister Schultz, speaks of open intervention, the countries of Contadora are working hard to bring about a solution there. Therefore, Sir, let the Indian Republic, consistent with its national tradition, consistent with its anti-imperialist tradition, consistent with the trading that our late Prime Minister Nehru had shown to the world, join the 'save Nicaragua campaign'. It is not only a debate in the House which can bring relief to the Nicaraguan people, who are sought to be suppressed by the American imperialism, but the material aid is also necessary. Of course, solidarity with them is very important. The Indian Parliament must express in unambiguous terms its solidarity with the fighting people of Nicaragua the Indian Parliament must express in unambiguous terms its condemnation of the behaviour of the American imperialism. There is no question, let me remind my friends who had spoken earlier, of our equating the American imperialism with the Soviet Union. There is no question of saying only that American imperialism is a super power. There is only one question of finding out and clearly identifying who is posing a threat to the Indian sovereign, who is against peace, who is threatening the Nicaraguan sovereignty and independence. Who is number one enemy of the humanity? Therefore, there is no question of equating the two super-powers. Soviet Union is the defender of the world peace; American imperialism is the worst conspirator working against peace and humanity. Therefore, there in no question of equation. We must be unambiguous, clearcut and we must be as just as Nehru did, we must be as just as Gandhi Ji did, we must be as just as Tagore did to clearly identify who are the enemies of the people, of freedom and liberation, we must clearly identify who want war to be unleased and who want the Government of Nicaragua to go.

There cannot be unjustified and equivocal condemnation; it must be unequivocal. Therefore, I suggest that along with expressing our solidarity with the people of Nicaragua, there must be something concrete. I suggest let there be a Nicaragua Liberation Aid Committee. If itmay not be sponsored by the Government, It could have the official blessing of the Government. Let Parliamentarians

form a Committee known as Nicaragua Liberation Aid Committee. Let the Members of Parliament donate money to the Liberatio nFund, let the Members of Parliament donate one day's earnings to the Fund; let the Members of Parliament lead again a massive campaign not only inside the House, but outside the House to educated the people and collected relief in all forms not only in the form of fertilisers, pesticides, blood, plasma, but even in the form of papers, pencils which they require to carry out their fight against illiteracy. Therefore, it is a question of collecting material aid for Nicaragua and something concrete has to be done in this direction.

I am thankful to the Prime Minister for agreeing to such a debate, but I expect the Prime Minister to take more concrete steps—official or unofficial—so that greater amount of solidarity aid can be sent to Nicaragua which will be an act of our disapproval of the policy that the American implerialism is pursuing in the world today.

MR. VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I will request the Hon. Members to be very brief.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA (Haryana): Mr. Vice-Chairman. Sir, India having struggled successfully against colonial rule and having attained freedom showed to the world that we stand by all people who are under colonial rule. We want that there should be free nations' in the world. There should not be slave countries. There must not be countries ruled by other countries; and people must have the right to choose and from their own Government which serve their needs. India as the leader of the third world countries and believing in non-alignment policy also has been advocating throughout that any country whether big or small, powerful or weak should not become an instrument for oppressive weaker States. The fight of the people of Nicaragua against the dictatorial regime which was prevalent there succeeded in attaining freedom and throwing the shackles of slavery. I congratulate those people. Now, an attempt being made by the United States of America to impose economic sanctions and militarily assist the Contodora group to mount pressure on the Nicaragua people is very deplorable. We must stand by the people of Nicaragua in its crisis. But I would caution the Government that we should not sound to be partial. There are other countries in the world where some super powers are also entering in similar circumstances. For instance, take Afghanistan. We cannot forget what nas happened in Afghanistan. If Nicaragua is going to suffer because of U.S. interference then, we should also take note of Afghanistan wherein there is another super-power sitting over their head. the people of Afghanistan are not in a position to choose and form their own Government. We cannot speak in two different languages in similar situations. We must condemn and strongly advocate for freedom and free atmosphere in Nicaragua and Latin American countries. But at the same time we cannot be a party to the suppression of freedom of the people of Afghanistan. Any country in the world with whatever political system which wants to choose and form its own Government we should see to it that it is done. We should champion the cause of the people who are sought to be made slaves or who are sought to be used as pawns in the games of super-power rivalry. If peace is to be maintained and restored in this world, then, we must see that all countries whether super powers or intermediate powers do not get a chance to exploit other countries economically or militarily.

[Shri Sushil Chand Hohunta]

We are also seeing the people of South Africa being put under great distress by the racist regime of that country. We have come heavily against the policy of apartheid.

We are also seeing that an attempt is being made on the Tamil population in Sri Lanka to annihilate them. We are finding a solution there also. We have also dealt with Kampuchean problem. We have also seen the Vietnam war. We have also seen our Korean war. We also saw the same situation when Hungary was in such a position. But throughout our stand has been more or less of positive neutrality.

Now, I request the Government of India to come very strongly for the people of Nicaragua and at the same time, not shirk the responsibility of coming to the rescue of the people of Afghanistan. Thank you.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the freedom, the liberty and the sovereignty of the people of Nicaragua are being threatened, and Nicaragua is today in a state of siege Nicaragua is a very small country consisting of three million people, and it is among the poorest in Latin America. Yet America considers Nicaragua as a threat to its security and is taking all sorts of actions, taking all measures to suppress the freedom and sovereignty of the people of Nicaragua. Nicaragua is a non-aligned country. And we are a non-aligned country. A threat to a non-aligned country is a threat to the whole non-aligned movement. So the whole movement should take the challenge that has been thrown at the people of Nicaragua by America seriously and we should see that actions of America are not allowed. In the past it has been the experience of people of the world that wherever America tried to suppress the freedom and liberty of the people of any counry, it has failed. It has failed in Vietnam. It has failed in Iran. It is trying to adopt the same method in Nicaragua, in Pakistan and in other countries, and the people are confident that these actions will not be successful.

The non-aligned movement has come out strongly in support of a peaceful settlement of the Central American conflict. Nicaragua is an active member-State of the non-aligned movement and any threat against it is a threat to the entire movement. The summit conference of the non-aligned States held in New Delhi and the meeting of the heads of delegations of the non-aligned countries attending the 39th U.N. General Assembly Session, demanded the immediate cessation of all threats, attacks and hostile actions against Nicaragua. We expect the Indian Government, being the leader of the non-aligned movement, to take an active part and move the non-aligned movement against the actions of the American Government. This alone will put pressure on the American Government and also the neighbouring country, Honduras, which is being used by the American imperialists to wage a war against the Nicaraguan people. I fully support the views expressed by the Member who initiated this discussion and I hope the Government of India will play an important role in going to the support of the people of Nicaragua.

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Sir, I have the unique distinction of being the guest of President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragaua in January, 1984. After my speech in the Georgetown University's Centre for Strategic Studies, I made a visit to that country and in that matter, I am so greatful to the present Ambassador of Nicaragua, a very dynamic lady of Indian origin, whom President Daniel Ortega called half-Indian. At Miami when I was going to board the plane, I was told by a journalist that there were the Contra-

group of people who would kill anybody who went to Nicaragua to support their cause. I had the blessings of the late Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and I went there. And what I saw myself was an appalling experience of distress. Sir, it is one country in the whole world where 60 per cent of the population are in the age-group of 16 to 35, and another 25 per cent in the age-group of 35 to 50. What to speak of others, the President himself is only 38, and what a dynamic personality! When I was face to face with him, I thought I was meeting one of the youngest politicians, diplomats and statesmen who had sacrificed his whole life in the prison, eating nothing almost, for the cause of his country. That is Daniel Ortega. I had seen him in the NAM conference talking to Mrs. Gandhi and he presented a brilliant personality of vivacity, vigour and dynamism. I thought here is a man who can lead his country. People say a number of things.

People say that the Cubans are helping Nicaragua; people say that the USSR is helping Nicaragua. But so what? Nicaragua is a country of mixed economy not communism. I found the religion quite active churches quite active and conducting the masses and I found everybody was independent either to go to the church or to attend the mass. I found the newspapers were working and giving independent views. Yet the Pentagon would say the Nicaragua is a communist country and that it is licking the boots either of the USSR or of Fidel Castro. Even if Fidel Castro is helping Nicaragua in distress, what is wrong? As Mr. Das Gupta has said, Panditji sent a medical mission to China to help when the Japanese committed aggression. So, there is nothing wrong if Cuba is helping Nicaragua. Sir, I will only quote an eminent American, who is President of world leadership council who has written something in this regard:

> "The Nicaraguan revolution has been very different from that in Cuba. The first thing that Castro did was to organise kangaroo courts, process 500 political opponents, line them up against the prison wall and execute them by firing sqauds.

> "In Nicaragua, Tomas Borge abolished the death sentence. He had witnessed the torture and death of his family members, spent 14 years in prison himself, several of them with a black hood over his head, and during that time was repeatedly tortured."

Many revolutionaries were tortured my Dictatorship men were killed women were raped. This is what Nicaragua was. If anybody says that it is a communist government now, I am not going to agree. You have the Coco-Cola there, you have the Pepsi-Cola there, and you have a lot of multinational companies which are working there is Nicargaua. If after this anybody says that it is a communist country, I am not going to agree. It is a country of mixed economy. If one raises his head against the Pentagon or Mr. Reagan, he cannot be branded as a communist. What has Reagan done in Grenada? —a tiny nation grounded to a halt I will certainly request our Foreign Minister, Mr. Bhagat, that like his predecessor, Mr. Narasimha Rao, who was there in Nicaragua before me, to support them positively, and 'positively' means by way of strong will and resolution. Why not Mr. Bhagat allow a resolution to be passed by the Indian Parliament to support the Nicaraguan Government as most of the socialist countries have done? This is the positive support which we can give to Nicaragua.

[Dr. Shyam Sundar Mohapatra]

After I returned from Nicaragua, I took it up with the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Gandhi, and a medical aid was sanctioned, medical aid worth about twenty lakhs of rupees or so. Sir, we have many reasons why, in Nicaragua, we should try to stand by them they being every now and then in distress. By merely accepting their stability or agreeing to their sovereignty in Nicaragua, we would only be doing a minor help. That is a minor help only. We must give them some positive help. Sir, I saw there an eminent non-violent man, a Gandhian. Have you over found a Foreign Minister of any country, Mr. Bhagat, I point to you sir, going on fast? Mr. Bharat, will you go on fast? Have you ever seen a Foreign Minister of a country going on fast for a cause? Mr. Bhagat, will you go on fast for 20 days in support of your case? But Mr. Migel De-Escorts, the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, did itfl

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I met him after his fast.

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Yes, Sir; you had arranged my meeting with him.

Now, what I want to impress is that there is not even an iota of communism in Nicaragua. They are standing for egalitarianism, democratic socialism, for land reforms. I have already said that there is nothing wrong if the USSR or Cuba supports them in their distress. We have seen the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Mr. Escort going on fast for twenty four hours in Delhi before the Gandhi Samadhi. Therefore, that day we all sat with him and the Indian Nicaragua Society, of which I am the President, arranged a 24-hour relay fast as a support to that.

Now, Sir, today it seems as if the American public opinion is slightly going against Nicaragua and that is why heavy sanction is going to be made to disturb the Nicaraguan stability and to support the Contra group who, on he border of Honduras, have accumulated more than 200 planes, more than 150 helicopters and everything else to crush the Popular movement there. Sir, have you ever found anybody bombing the civilian population as the Nazis did in Czechoslovakia when they bombed the civilian population, when they bombed the hospitals, when they bombed the Red Cross, when they killed the children and when they raped the women there? That is what the Contras are doing in Nicaragua. Some Americans call these Contras nationalists and freedom fighters dhoarse and a force. Daniel Ortega and Mr. Esciedo have stood as sentinels to guard the freedom of the Nicaraguan people. I will, therefore, urge upon the Government that they should do their very best for Nicaragua and I will urge upon the Foreign Minister to do something as India's Foreign Minister of this country of 800 million people to show that we stand by Nicaragua at all costs and, if need be, as Mr. Das Gupta has said, you can send a delegation also to stand by them may be medical mission, may be voluntary corps or may be anything. That is how we can show our solidarity.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I entirely agree with and share the sentiments of my friends who have spoken before me on this important subject, US intervenion in Nicaragua. Sir, since the removal of Right Wing dictatorship, US has been trying its very best to destabilize the Government in Nicaragua. As many as 15,000 counter-revolutionaries have been incited, have been trained, have been armed, have been assisted in all possibl ways, to destabilise Nicaragua. The guerrillas who have

been trained by America in Nicaragua are doing all sorts of things. They are indulging in looting, arson, plunder, kidnapping and also in mass rape as stated by my learned friend, Mr. Mohapatra. Bullets are being showered from helicopters. Indiscriminately innocent men, women and children and even patients, hospitalised patients, are killed day in and day out. This is the state of affairs in Nicaragua. A war is practically on, although it is not a declared war. It is a war all right. The war is going on between America and Nicaragua. And the seriousness of this war can well be imagined from the fact that in just one year, that is, 1985, a total of 3976 army men of Nicaragua were killed, 4457 army men were wounded and 3767 people were kidnapped by the guerrillas. In the first six months of this year, that is, 1986, there have been reportedly as many as 214 skirmishes, battles, between the two forces. It has to be seen whether Nicaragua falls like Grenada or it stands on its own feet like Cuba and other socialist countries. It is also a fact, Sir, that as Comrade Dipen Ghosh was mentioning, when President Reagon failed to convince and persuade the US Senate for sanctioning funds to support these guerrilla activities in Nicaragua, President Reagan invoked his emergency powers and ordered a total embargo against Nicaragua. Now the situation is that no Nicaragua plane can land in America and no ship of Nicaragua can enter any American port, although that is the most important and the largest neighbouring country. What loss this embargo has caused to the Nicaraguan people can be illustrated by the fact that during the last five years, that is, 1980—85, Niacragua has had to spend as much as 1.9 billion dollars on its arms for facing the onslaught of the American army. At the same time, it has also lost 1.8 billion dollars in GDP. Gross Domestic Product. So from these figures it can well be imagined what would be the state of economy at present of a tiny and small country like Nicarangua. On the one hand, there are armed attacks through inciting the Nicaraguan people to fight against the revolutionary government, and on the other by having this embargo, trade embargo against Nicaragua, America thinks that very soon Nicaragua will be cowed down, will cow down, before the American imperialism and will surrender.

Sir, our leaders like Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi have always condemned this U.S. intervention in Nicaragua. So many countries of the world, all the socialist countries and besides the socialist so many other countries are having diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. I think Nicaragua is having diplomatic relations with more than 200 countries (*Time bell rings*). All these countries are with Nicaragua and it should be their pious duty to ensure that Nicaragua does not fall under the weight of the U.S. imperialism.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, what is the fault of Nicaraguan people? The only fault of the Nicaraguan people is that they have tried to make Cubans their friends, they have tried to make the Soviet people their friends and the socialist people their friend. They are radicals. They are having a mixed economy, but the tilt is towards socialism. As we are left to the centre, so they are also much more left to the centre. They are not actually communists, but they are very much prone to it. It is their penchant for socialism that is a sin in the eyes of America and for which America is trying to chastise them and browbeat them. They say that they are doing it for their security. Can a tiny country like Nicaragua be a threat to America?

America says that Nicaragua has raised an army of 62000 men. So what? It seems to be an inflated figure. But even if it is like that, America should not be afraid of 62000 men, armymen, of Nicaragua. It is all bosh. In fact, Reagan does not want to see or cannot see a communist or a socialist country under his vary nose. That is why the Reagan Administration is perpetrating all these crimes, all these things, which are going on in Nicaragua. All my friends have said and I would also say say that in line with our own external policy, we must unequivocally condemn this American intervention in Nicaragua. We should try to build up and mobilise world opinion against America in this matter as early as possible. We should also try to explore the possibility of having a trade pact with Nicaragua so that we can provide them whatever they want or we can take from them. We should try to have this pact so that it can give a little boost to their economy. With hese words, I enirely endorse what all my former speakers on thator this side have said and I whole-heartedly condemn the imperialstic chauvanism of America in the matter of Nicaragua.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, Nicaragua today provides a glaring example of an unfortunate victim of the global strategy of the United States of America which is trying to have world-wide domination. A sumall independent, sovereign, nation, Nicaragua, has been pitted against the mightiest of the world powers today. A question may arise as to why the Indian Parliament and the people of India should be agitated over what is happening in Nicaragua. Sir, excuse me when I say this. What has befallen Nicaragua and its people today may befall on other patritic sovereign independent countries if the present mad drive of the United States of America to dominate the world is not halted. Naturally, it is not only the concern of the people of Nicaragua but it is also the concern of any part of the world. And the Indian Parliament cannot remain oblivious to this fact. The Indian Parliament cannot but discharge responsibility to raise its voice of protest against these shameful acts of aggression of the United States of America.

Sir, history has it that in July, 1979, when the Sandinistan popular revolution triumphed, some 10,000 people fled the country and they organised themselves into bands which are carrying on this plundering of these territorial areas of Nicaragua. Sir, there has been a complete transformation of the United States policy towards Nicaragua. When Mr. Ronald Reagan assumed the office of US Presidentship, as a matter of fact, he has transformed the US policy into a policy of aggression and the people of Nicaragua are fighting today against those aggressive policies. Sir, you would know that there have been liberal financial assistance to the rebels. And I would only quote certain figures as to the amount which has been sent by the United States of America to hely the rebels. Sir, in Novemer, 1981, the United States authorised 19.85 million dollars to carry out the covert action. Military training centres were set up in the United States territory itself. CIA was commissioned into it. In December, 1982, another 30 million dollars were sanctioned. And it as gainw an amounto of 24 million dollars which was sanctioned in 1983. In 1985, it was 39 million dollars. Naturally, it would be evident that larger and larger amounts of money are being sa-

[Shri P. N. Sukul]

nctioned by the United States of America for helping or aiding those rebels so that the Nicaraguan situation can be destabilised. Sir, it has also been pointed out that the United States Administration have sought for a sanction of more than 100 million dollars for the current year. Sir, apart from not only encouraging the insurgents, not only encouraging the rebels, the United States of America has also taken recourse to economic blockade. Sir, in violation of all concepts and norms of national and international laws, the United States of America has also disregarded the decision of the International Court of the Hague. Sir, as a result of economic blockade, Nicaragua has suffered a loss to the tune of 380 million dollars. If the export losses are taken into account, it will come to more than 700 million dollers which comes to about 20 per cent of the total exports for the last three years. Therefore, you can well appreciate the effect and the consequences of the economic blockade policy of the United States of America. Under these circumstances, Sir, the Parliament should unequivocally condemn the aggressive actions of the United States of America and express firm solidarity with the people of Nicaragua and thereby ensure that the United States drive towards foreign domination can be halted and halted for the sovereignty of the people of all the States of the world. In this respect, Sir, the move taken by the Contadora Foreign Ministers is welcome. And I feel and I thing everybody feels, including you, that that is the only way to bring about a political solution to the problem and obtain abiding peace and stability in Nicaragua and that will also ensure to the people of the world a new possibility of world peace and put an end to the war efforts of the United States of Ameria.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I wholeheartedly endorse and agree with the sentiments, with the expressions, made by all the hon. Members who participated in this debate. It is a very happy moment, Sir, that on a rather unique occasion, i.e., on the issue of Nicaragua or the dangers and difficulties that a small country like Nicaragua faces, the House has expresesed in solidarity its grave concern about the situation in Nicarragua. Therefore, Sir, while replying my burden is very light. I endorse all that the Members have said of the steps that we should take so that the liberty, the light of liberty, that is lit in Nicaragua, is not extinguished, either by military intervention or by economic pressure or by internal subversion or by difficulties or serious difficulties created of any kind, those of us who have gone through our own freedom struggle, it is our faith, Sir, that the light of liberty once it is lit in every heart, no power on earth can extinguish it. This is the situation I see as it is in Nicaragua and the people and the Government there are fighting and they are ready to pay any price and sacrifice anything for maintaining their freedom. I think that all the countries which have struggled they realise the importance of freedom and all that is mentioned in the Non-Aligned Movement, the expressions, the various resolutions right from 1983 here in the Delhi Summit, of the various meetings, the last being in Luanda in September 1985. All these newly independent countries which cherish zealously their freedom, their independence of action and which are against any form of confrontation and which have voted for conciliation and reconciliation, for peaceful coexistence, they have spoken not only against all the interventions in Nicar-

ragua but have also condemned them. But the hon. Member, Mr. Gurupadaswamy, in his wisdom has said, let us appeal, he has asked the Government to appeal to the United States, to give up the path of confrontation and work out for a peaceful solution. I think that when the Government of India is doing everything possible bilaterally, we have the best of relations with Nicaragua, and we have been giving them assistance, whatever they need, and we are soon sending a techno-economic team to help build the Nicaraguan economy, which is going in the very near future, there is no need to do this. I would like to quote this. The Foreign Ministers' Conference in Luanda in September 1985 has devoted a number of paragraph to Nicaragua itself.

[**Mr. Deputy Chairman** in the Chair]

In one paragraph it says: In this regard, the Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement have urged the Government of the United States to renew bilateral talks with the Governmen of Nicaragua with a view to achieving a concrete agree- 6 P.M. ement on the above-mentioned basis.

That is, the basis that the hon. Member Mr. Dipen Ghosh has said about the principles of the Carabaleda Declaration, the negotiated settlement and the declaration for peace and co-operation in the entire Latin American countries, and he mentioned the eight points. Sir, we hope that the combined unanimous voice of this House and the appeal made by the non-aligned movement and all the countries will have an impact on the American Government and luckily there are strong forces in America which are for this peaceful reconciliation and not for intervention and confrontation. It was said, last year the American Government wanted a larger budget both for military and for economic aid but the Congress—though it did not cut down the budget—only sanctioned 27 million dollars to confine it only to humanitarian aid. This is very important. The people in the U.S.A. asserted themselves and said, not a pie for military aid but only a humanitarian aid would be spent. The figure has been mentioned; aid of one hundred million dollars was asked for by the administration from the Congress. The voice or the conscience of the world: speaking for the cause of justice and liberty in Nicaragua will create a force in the Senate and in the Congress so that whatever help they give, they will confine themselves to economic and humanitarian aid and not military aid. But all the same, it has been expressed that as a result of this conflict going on and the economic pressures on the Nicaraguan Government, the Government of Nicaragua is under very great pressure. The Prime Minister, when he took over as Chairman of the non-aligned movement, issued a statement expressing grave concern at the escalating tension in Central America, and the threat of an armed conflict in the region, especially in and around Nicaragua which posed a danger to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of not only Nicaragua but the countries of the region as a whole. Regional stability was threatened as well as it can threaten—if it is escalated further—the entire global peace and security.

Sir, the very positive development has been the sustained effort made since January 1983, that is, at the Delhi Summit of non-aligned movement, by four countries of the region, known as Contadora Group. Names have been mentioned but I would like to repeat: They are—Mexico, Panama, Columbia and Venezuela, and later on the support group of Latin America, the four important democratic countries of Latin, America, Argentina, Brazil, Peru and Uruguay.

[Shri P. N. Sukul]

In January, 1986, just a couple of months ago, the Foreign Ministers of the Contadora and support group, that is, all the eight countries, met in Carabaleda where the famous statement was issued which was quoted by the hon. Member, Mr. Dipen Ghosh, calling for preservation of peace, security and democracy in Central America. The message stated that in the face of growing threat to peace in Central America, it was urgently necessary to give a new thrust to the Contadora negotiating process so as to finalise the signing of an Act for peace and co-operation in Central America. It was the only means to ensure general political understanding which would allow peaceful co-existence among the countries of the region. It is one of the positive signs that, principle, the efforts of the Contadora group are supported and accepted by the Administration and the Congress of the U.S. Government. Here, we have to work together. The principles of reconciliation, peaceful co-existence and peaceful negotiations contained in the Carabaleda message should prevail. The Caraballed message should prevail. The Foreign Ministers requested the Government of India as Chairman of the NAM, for support to their Governments' efforts for achieving peace and security in Central America. We fully support this. Our support has been fully authenticated by the unanimous voice of this House.

We attach the highest importance to the right of the people to choose freely their own path of social, political and economic development. Therefore, it is of no relevance what is the composition or the ideology of the Government, as long as the Government represents the will of the people, as long as that Government is elected by the free will of the people. It is for the people of Nicaragua to decide what should be the composition, the ideology, of their Government and what should be their path of social, political and economic development. The only thing is, the situation which prevails in and around Nicaragua and in Central America as a whole negates the whole process of peace and peaceful development. It should be our effort, it should be the duty and responsibility of the international community to support the efforts of the Contadora group of countries, which are still far from being realised. These are big, pious, hopes. They have to be realised. Sir, the search for a negotiated political solution to the region's problem has been obstructed by fresh difficulties and renewed pressures. We able to overcome the present obs- the people of Central America will ultimately triumph and they will be able to overcome the present obstacles to their peace efforts. Sir, a suggestion has been made that we should form a non-official committee to help the people there. As I said, we are rendering all help, from the Government side, to the best of our capacity. But if the people and the Members of Parliament feel that a non-official committee should be formed to help raise funds and give all help to the people there, they are free to do so. This will be a supportive effort. Sir, we are sure, the new deadlock in the process will be resolved to the mutual satisfaction through the joint efforts of the concerned countries. Failure to do so will not only have tragic consequences for the people of Central America, but also carries dangerous portents for global peace and security. Thank you.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, while thanking the hon. Minister for extending full support to my move on the Nicaraguan issue I expect, the hon. Minister will make the unanimous voice of the Rajya Sabha heard in the U.S. Congress which is in session now.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, we should not only extend moral support, but material support also, more than what it is today.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Sir, will I be right if I say that our Foreign Minister should write to the Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Mr. D'Escoto, that the Rajya Sabha has unanimously, irrespective of the parties, has extended its full support.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister has accepted the suggestion.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, the unanimous sentiments of this House should be conveyed to the Nicaraguan people and the Nicaraguan Government in full, as well as our total disapproval of the American policy in the case of Nicaragua.

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**Half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the answer to Starred Question No. 5 given on 21st February, 1986 regarding Telugu Ganga Project**

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on February 21, 1986 while answering Starred Question No. 5 by Professor Lakshmanna, the Minister of Water Resources left many things unanswered. There was also a deliberate attempt to confuse the whole issue which, I am afraid, would only aggravate the situation and hamper the progress of the Telugu-Ganga project.

Sir, the Bachawat Commission's report regarding sharing of the Krishna waters is very clear and there is no ambiguity in any respect and whatever objections other riparian States are raising today, they were raised before the Commission itself and the Commission gave very categorical verdict on all the points raised. It is unfortunate that those are being repeated today, and the Union Government instead of clarifying the issues and giving clearance to the project has only added to the confusion and the controversy. I would, therefore, like to clarify certain issues involved in this matter.

The Krishna Waters Dispute Tribuanl pronounced award in 1973 and 1976 after hearing the viewpoints of all the States concerned and the Government of India also participated in the discussions. The Commission allocated the Krishna waters on the basis of 75 per cent dependability. Taking the availability of waters at 2060 TMC. They allocated the water as follows:

800 TMC for Andhra Pradesh, 700 TMC for Karnataka, 560 TMC for Maharashtra.

The Tribunal also laid down unmistakenly that Andhra Pradesh will have the liberty to use all the remaining flow in the Krishna river. Of course, they put a proviso that by doing so Andhra Pradesh would not acquire any right over the utilisation of surplus waters. This has been mentioned in clause 5(c) of the award. In its further report, in clause 15, the Commission has clarified and stated:

"Nothing in the order of this Tribunal shall impair the right of Andhra Pradesh or any other State to regulate the water to enjoy the benefits of their rights within the State in a manner not inconsistent with the orders of this Tribunal."

This they have clearly stated. At the same time, they have put a restriction on the upper riparian States of Maharashtra and Karnataka in these words: They said in Chapter 14 "We restrain the States of Maharashtra and Mysore from using more water than that which is allocated to each of them. We permit the State of Andhra Pradesh to use the remaining water but we lay down, by such use the State of Andhra Pradesh shall not acquire any right to use the waters of the river Krishna except to